

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 36-42 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-12 and 30 were previously cancelled. Claims 13 and 35 have been amended and claim 43 has been added.

The Examiner has asserted that the claim set is directed at the following species: Group I, corresponding to a filter cartridge with a proximal region including a ridge or increased diameter for interface with a retrieval device; and Group II, corresponding to a filter cartridge with a proximal region including an outer surface with an increased coefficient of friction relative to other portions of the filter cartridge. The Examiner has required restriction to one of these Groups, and has asserted that no claim is generic. Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Group I, without traverse, corresponding to claims 13-29, 31-34 and 43. Applicants assert that new claim 43 is generic to both species.

Applicants further note that claim 35 has been amended, but Applicants also wish to withdraw this amended claim (the claim corresponds to Group II) from consideration after the amendment has been entered into the record.

Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims of the present application is respectfully requested. It is submitted that the claims are currently in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is anticipated. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at 612.677.9050.

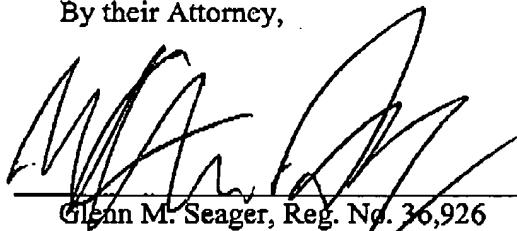
Respectfully submitted,

ANTHONY C. VRBA ET AL.

By their Attorney,

Date:

Dec. 23, 2005



Glenn M. Seager, Reg. No. 36,926
CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC
1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403-2420
Tel: (612) 677-9050